

discoveries were uncovered. Unearthed were 365 prehistoric sites, pictographs, stone tools, bone tools and arrowheads. Also discovered were a preserved mastodon skeleton, a mammoth skeleton, a 7-foot tusk and bones from the extinct animals previously unknown to have resided in the area, including the giant long-horned bison and an enormous North American Lion.

The construction of Diamond Valley Lake unearthed the largest known accumulation of late Ice Age fossils known in California. The scientific importance of this collection may now rival California's other famed site, the La Brea Tar Pits.

The State of California is an active participant in this endeavor, having already contributed \$6 million to the Western Center. Another \$10.5 million has been included in this year's State budget for construction and maintenance of the center.

As for the Federal Government's role in this endeavor, first, 12,000 acres of land totaling about \$40 million, have been bought and set aside by the Metropolitan Water District to comply with the Endangered Species Act, a Federal requirement.

Moreover, there is legislative precedent for Federal assistance to States for preservation. The National Historic Preservation Act set the stage for Federal, State and local partnerships. This act provides that the Federal government shall contribute to the preservation of non-federally owned prehistoric and historic resources and give maximum encouragement to organizations and individuals undertaking preservation by private means.

In addition, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Defense, the Department of Interior, and the Department of Agriculture have uncovered prehistoric and historic artifacts and are being forced to store these artifacts and records in storage units, offices, basements or in substandard museums, which is unacceptable. I am pleased that we can use this unique opportunity to work together in a partnership with local, State and Federal interests to protect and preserve these assets for all Americans.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Alaska (Chairman YOUNG) and the gentleman from Utah (Chairman HANSEN) for their work on this bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, H.R. 4187 authorizes the Federal Government to pay up to one-quarter of the cost of a \$40 million visitors facility to be constructed as part of a vast recreational complex being developed around a new locally owned water project in California. The complex is reported to include golf courses, restaurants, and concert areas centered around this new reservoir.

While we of the minority do not intend to oppose this legislation, H.R. 4187 does raise some serious concerns. The bill authorizes this Federal expenditure, despite the fact that there is no substantive Federal connection to this project. None of the facilities, nor any of the land, are federally owned or operated.

We are told that during the construction, important archeological artifacts were discovered and therefore the Federal Government should pay for a visitors center. However, if these artifacts are truly important, funding for them is available through existing grant programs, and earmarked funding for a visitors center is therefore unnecessary.

I guess I should point out that there is a certain irony that some on the majority side are asking for Federal funding for this. But it has been argued also that because the local water district was required to set aside a nature preserve as a species mitigation measure, the use of Federal funds for this visitors center is justified. However, the set-aside was required by law and does not entitle this project to a taxpayer-funded visitors center.

In the view of the minority members of the Committee on Resources, Congress should allocate Federal resources to address the multibillion dollar maintenance and construction backlogs on Federal lands, and non-Federal projects such as this one should receive the bulk of their funding from the States and localities who own and operate them.

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While the minority will not oppose H.R. 4187, we would caution against similar authorization in cases with such limited Federal interests.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4187.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SENSE OF CONGRESS ON NEED FOR WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL ON THE MALL

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 145) expressing the sense of Congress on the propriety and need for expeditious construction of the National World War II Memorial at the Rainbow Pool on the National Mall in the Nation's Capitol.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. CON. RES. 145

Whereas World War II is the defining event of the twentieth century for the United States and its wartime allies;

Whereas in World War II, more than 16,000,000 American men and women served in uniform in the Armed Forces, more than 400,000 of them gave their lives, and more than 670,000 of them were wounded;

Whereas many millions more on the home front in the United States organized and sacrificed to give unwavering support to those in uniform;

Whereas fewer than 6,000,000 World War II veterans are surviving at the end of the twentieth century, and the Nation mourns the passing of more than 1,200 veterans each day;

Whereas Congress, in Public Law 103-422 (108 Stat. 4356) enacted in 1994, approved the location of a memorial to this epic era in an area of the National Mall that includes the Rainbow Pool;

Whereas since 1995, the National World War II Memorial site and design have been the subject of 19 public hearings that have resulted in an endorsement from the State Historic Preservation Officer of the District of Columbia, three endorsements from the District of Columbia Historic Preservation Review Board, the endorsement of many Members of Congress, and, most significantly, four approvals from the Commission of Fine Arts and four approvals from the National Capital Planning Commission (including the approvals of those Commissions for the final architectural design);

Whereas on Veterans Day 1995, the President dedicated the approved site at the Rainbow Pool on the National Mall as the site for the National World War II Memorial; and

Whereas fundraising for the National World War II Memorial has been enormously successful, garnering enthusiastic support from half a million individual Americans, hundreds of corporations and foundations, dozens of civic, fraternal, and professional organizations, state legislatures, students in 1,100 schools, and more than 450 veterans groups representing 11,000,000 veterans: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) it is appropriate for the United States to memorialize in the Nation's Capitol the triumph of democracy over tyranny in World War II, the most important event of the twentieth century;

(2) the will of the American people to memorialize that triumph and all who labored to achieve it, and the decisions made on that memorialization by the appointed bodies charged by law with protecting the public's interests in the design, location, and construction of memorials on the National Mall in the Nation's Capitol, should be fulfilled by the construction of the National World War II Memorial, as designed, at the approved and dedicated Rainbow Pool site on the National Mall; and

(3) it is imperative that expeditious action be taken to commence and complete the construction of the National World War II Memorial so that the completed memorial will be dedicated while Americans of the World War II generation are alive to receive the national tribute embodied in that memorial, which they earned with their sacrifice and achievement during the largest and most devastating war the world has known.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, S. Con. Res. 145 expresses the sense of Congress on the propriety and need for expeditious construction of the National World War II Memorial at the Rainbow Pool on the National Mall on the Nation's capitol. In short, this gives the congressional approval to construct this memorial to the brave men and women who served and gave their lives during World War II at the Rainbow Pool location in the Mall and will, I hope, put this issue to rest.

Madam Speaker, there are two indisputable facts dealing with this memorial. One is the fact that no one can possibly think that memorial does not deserve to be in a place of the utmost prominence in the Mall. World War II was the most important event in this century and over 1 million Americans were either killed or wounded.

The other fact is that all approvals from various commissions have been granted to proceed with the construction of this memorial at this site. However, it is apparent that construction is still mired down, now with misguided lawsuits by a few people who apparently do not believe that this event and the 16 million brave men and women who proudly wore the American uniform deserve recognition.

Enough is enough, Madam Speaker. The process of constructing this memorial has gone on far and long enough, and it is high time we got down to the business and build this deserved memorial which means so much to so many people. Madam Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support S. Con. Res. 145.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, no one can argue with the substance of this concurrent resolution. The Second World War is recognized as the most significant event of the 20th Century. Millions of American men and women served with distinction and honor in that conflict and more than 400,000 made the ultimate sacrifice as part of their service to their Nation. The core principles of this legislation, that it is the sense of Congress that a memorial commemorating the World War II activities should be built within area 1 on the Mall and that it should be built as expeditiously as possible, that is incontrovertible. Of course, we are all aware that there is some remaining controversy, but that controversy has moved to the courts, and Congress really has no further role in resolving that issue.

As the process moves towards what we hope will be a rapid resolution, it is appropriate that Congress re-assert its support for this important project, and as a result, the minority side fully supports the passage of this measure.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STUMP), the champion for all veterans in our country.

Mr. STUMP. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) first introduced this resolution to create the memorial in 1987 but it was not enacted until 1993.

Since its authorization, this memorial has been through 19 public hearings. It has been completely redesigned in response to concerns raised in this public process. It has been approved by the National Park Service, the Department of Interior and the President, as well as the D.C. Historic Preservation Review Board, the National Capital Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts.

The World War II Memorial is supported by virtually every veterans' organization in this country representing over 10 million veterans. Ground breaking is scheduled for this coming Veterans Day, which is November 11. Unfortunately, Madam Speaker, it has taken three times as long to get from bill introduction to groundbreaking as it did to win the war in the first place.

Yet there are still opponents of this memorial continuing to challenge the design and location on the Mall. They would delay the groundbreaking of this already long overdue tribute to our Nation's triumph over tyranny. Every day that we wait to begin construction, over a thousand more World War II veterans pass on and join their fallen comrades.

Madam Speaker, this World War II memorial will not encroach on other monuments to America's founders and heroes. As Ray Smith, the Commander of the American Legion eloquently stated, and I quote, "This memorial will whisper poignantly of the blood shed and loss that preserved that which the Mall represents, the establishment and endurance of American democracy."

S. Con. Res. 145 was introduced on October 6 by the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services, Senator WARNER. I introduced the same measure on the same day in the House, along with my colleagues, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL), and others.

It simply reaffirms congressional support for expeditious construction of the World War II memorial at the Rainbow Pool on the National Mall of the Nation's Capitol. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, the gentleman from Arizona has given an eloquent and ar-

ticulate statement of the need for this memorial tribute, and I thank him for that.

Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. SHOWS).

Mr. SHOWS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) for yielding me the time.

Madam Speaker, today we are considering legislation to expedite the construction of the National World War II Memorial at the Rainbow Pool on the National Mall in the Nation's Capitol. More than 16 million American men and women served in uniform in the Armed Forces in World War II. More than 400,000 of them gave their lives, and more than 670,000 were wounded.

These Americans, like all of our veterans, knew the meaning of sacrifice, honor, duty, courage under fire and, yes, patriotism. They fought because they were asked to fight. They fought to keep America free and to extend freedom and democracy and liberty outside our Nation's borders so that the future of Americans would not be threatened. They fought because they had the will to stand up to the forces that threaten and destroy freedom and democracy. They fought and they made that ultimate sacrifice.

We have seen the photo of the six American Marines who raised the flags over Iwo Jima. I do not think there is a person alive today who knows about World War II who can look at that photo and not have tears in their eyes. The battle of Iwo Jima was considered vital to the war effort. Following intense air campaign, this ground battle began. It was the largest Marine force ever sent into battle. Casualties were high. It was a very bloody battle, but our Marines did not give up the American spirit.

The bravery shown by the men who fought that battle and who raised that flag at the end is an example of courage under fire. Just as the photo of the brave men at Iwo Jima is in every history book and in the minds of every American during Veterans and Memorial Day, the National World War II Memorial will serve as the same tribute and reminder of the sacrifices made by the members of the greatest generation.

My father, Clifford Shows, was a prisoner of war during World War II. He was captured during the Battle of the Bulge. I grew up hearing stories of those who survived and those who did not. My father is 75 years old and was 69 years old when this was passed in Congress in 1994 and first approved for this location on the National Mall, so that is when we must begin, when these men and women are still alive.

Madam Speaker, I want people like my dad to be able to enjoy the National World War II Memorial and tell their grandchildren and great-grandchildren about it.

Finally, I want to applaud the efforts of another World War II veteran, Senator Bob Dole. Senator Dole is one of

the leaders in the effort to raise funding and in bringing the importance of the construction of the National World War II Memorial to legislators and the public alike. He is to be commended for his efforts.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the resolution before us today.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I would just add that the gentleman from Mississippi has spoken eloquently on behalf of those who served, those who supported them and those of us who have followed them.

Mr. GILMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. Con. Res. 145. I urge my colleagues to join in supporting this timely legislation.

S. Con. Res. 145 expresses the sense of the Congress on the propriety and need for the expeditious construction on the national World War II memorial at the Rainbow Pool on the National Mall here in Washington.

As a World War II veteran, I have been a strong supporter of the memorial since the inception of this project several years ago. Now that final approval for the design and site has been given, we hope to see the memorial constructed in as expeditious a manner as possible.

Along with many of my fellow World War II veterans, we are looking forward to the groundbreaking ceremony of this memorial on November 11th, and I speak for many of my fellow World War II veterans who wish to be able to visit a completed World War II memorial in Washington in their lifetime.

I accordingly urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I regret that when Senate Concurrent Resolution 145, Expressing a Sense of the Congress on the Propriety and Need for Construction of the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall, came to the floor today I was giving the keynote speech to BusinessLINC, a national group that develops mentoring relationships between large and small businesses. Most members are out of town because there are no votes today, and there was apparently no one present who could give the true story of why there has been opposition to the World War II Memorial here in the District and throughout the country. Instead there were some comments that apparently disparaged the opposition and insulted their motives by indicating that they oppose a memorial to World War II veterans or feel less passionately about it than those who support the memorial. There are real differences, but let the record be clear that there are no differences on the belated honor that should have been made to World War II veterans long ago. The "greatest generation" of veterans, alone among our veterans, have not been honored, perhaps reflecting the extraordinary selflessness with which they have approached the entirety of their generous lives, from saving our country during the Great Depression to saving the free world itself during World War II, and thereafter the rebuilding of our economy in the post-war years.

The controversy surrounding the memorial has nothing to do with the veterans. The controversy has nothing to do with a memorial to

the veterans on the Mall. All agree that the memorial to these veterans belongs on the Mall. The controversy arose because of the memorial's placement, obstructing one of the great American vistas. Its placement is largely the work of one man, J. Carter Brown, Chair of the Commission on Fine Arts. The veterans did not choose the particular place on the Mall and had nothing to do with the selection of that site. Another site has been chosen. Brown, however, decided to do what had always been understood to be a violation of virtually sacred national ground, the space between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial. This space between the memorials to our greatest presidents is the last expansive space left on the Mall and has been left that way for obvious reasons. This breathtaking space calls to mind the sweep of our extraordinary history and the unique role played by Washington and Lincoln in particular. The view that this pristine space should not be interrupted is not held by a few disgruntled Washingtonians or people who look to bring lawsuits when they do not get their way. Some of the opponents are World War II veterans. Some are historic preservationists and others with a deep appreciation of the McMillan Plan for the Mall and the present Mall legacy of green space created by Charles McKim and Frederick Olmstead, Jr. Many others have voiced opposition, and they are as diverse as editorials from the Wall Street Journal to the Los Angeles Times expressing opposition indicate.

Until the end, I had hoped and worked for a compromise, even one that left a memorial at the Rainbow Pool site between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument—a compromise would have avoided many issues. The memorial, as proposed, has not only been criticized for its size and artistry. It also threatens to do irreparable damage to traffic and congestion. It will take huge areas out of other sections of the Mall to make way for buses and crowds that will destroy the ambiance of the Mall as it has been known for decades.

World War II veterans deserve a national festival to celebrate a memorial in their honor, not lawsuits that have become inevitable. Perhaps citizens would have been willing to join the celebration and forego their lawsuits had a compromise been reached. However, the memorial was put on a track that avoided the usual safeguards, procedures, and public comment, and the necessary disposition toward compromise never emerged.

Although no resolution is necessary for the memorial to proceed, if Congress wishes to go on record supporting the memorial, it should do so without impugning the motives of those who believed that two noble purposes could be served at once: a long overdue memorial on the Mall to the men and women who served our country during the greatest wartime crisis of the 20th century and the preservation of the historic and irreplaceable space between the memorials to our greatest presidents. The failure to serve worthy purposes is a failure for which our generation will have to pay. It is certainly no failure of the veterans of the "greatest generation."

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate concurrent resolution, S. Con. Res. 145.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ALASKA NATIVE AND AMERICAN INDIAN DIRECT REIMBURSEMENT ACT OF 1999

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 406) to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to make permanent the demonstration program that allows for direct billing of medicare, medicaid, and other third party payers, and to expand the eligibility under such program to other tribes and tribal organizations.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 406

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Alaska Native and American Indian Direct Reimbursement Act of 1999".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) In 1988, Congress enacted section 405 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1645) that established a demonstration program to authorize 4 tribally-operated Indian Health Service hospitals or clinics to test methods for direct billing and receipt of payment for health services provided to patients eligible for reimbursement under the medicare or medicaid programs under titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.; 1396 et seq.), and other third-party payors.

(2) The 4 participants selected by the Indian Health Service for the demonstration program began the direct billing and collection program in fiscal year 1989 and unanimously expressed success and satisfaction with the program. Benefits of the program include dramatically increased collections for services provided under the medicare and medicaid programs, a significant reduction in the turn-around time between billing and receipt of payments for services provided to eligible patients, and increased efficiency of participants being able to track their own billings and collections.

(3) The success of the demonstration program confirms that the direct involvement of tribes and tribal organizations in the direct billing of, and collection of payments from, the medicare and medicaid programs, and other third party reimbursements, is more beneficial to Indian tribes than the current system of Indian Health Service-managed collections.

(4) Allowing tribes and tribal organizations to directly manage their medicare and medicaid billings and collections, rather than channeling all activities through the Indian Health Service, will enable the Indian Health Service to reduce its administrative costs, is consistent with the provisions of the Indian Self-Determination Act, and furthers the commitment of the Secretary to enable tribes and tribal organizations to manage and operate their health care programs.